

BARBARA F. VUCANOVICH
2d DISTRICT, NEVADA
HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEES:
RURAL DEVELOPMENT, AGRICULTURE
AND RELATED AGENCIES
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES
SUBCOMMITTEES:
ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS
INSULAR AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL AND
TOURISM CAUCUS

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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2802

March 26, 1993

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LAS VEGAS, NV 89128
(702) 255-6470
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Lou Sizemore
Office of Legislative Affairs, Room 808
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Sizemore:

Enclosed you will find copies of letters received from a number of my constituents regarding Docket No. 92-235.

As you will note, I did receive a general response from your agency, and I have sent all this information to District 2 residents that requested it.

I am forwarding copies of these letters to you now so that the comments may be registered before the close of the comment period, May 28, 1992. No further response from your agency is necessary.

Thank you for our courteous assistance.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature]

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

February 23, 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:
7330-7/1700A3

Honorable Barbara F. Vucanovich
Member, House of Representatives
Federal Building
300 Booth Street, Suite 3038
Reno, Nevada 89509

Dear Congresswoman Vucanovich:

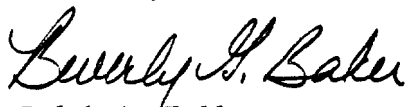
Honorable Barbara F. Vucanovich

2.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituent's concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due May 28, 1993, and Reply Comments are due July 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994. We urge your constituent to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely,


for Ralph A. Haller
Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures:
Notice
Order
Discussion paper

FEB 18 1993

1314 Continwntal Dr.
Carson City, NV 89701

The Honorable Barbara Vucanovich
Federal Office Building
300 Booth St. Rm. 3038
Reno, NV 89509

Feb. 16, 1993

Dear Mrs. Vucanovich;

I am retired and derive hours of enjoyment from building and flying radio controlled model airplanes. We have a very active club here at Carson City, called HIGH SIERRA R/C CLUB. We have 60 plus members and there is never a day that there is not someone at our field which is part of our city park system, enjoying R/C flying of some sort. Weather permitting!

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for R/C use and increase the risk of accidents and operator liability for controlling model airplanes.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. The FCC wants to create more frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearrange the band plan. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are now presently available for radio control model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

As some models have wingspans of 10 feet plus and weigh 30 to 40 lbs., they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes an operator to lose control of the aircraft.

As we have many public events and contests, I do not think it is wise for the FCC to jeopardize the safety of these people and property by seeking to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users. If the number of usable frequencies are diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the economy of not only our communities but to that of our country.

Please help me to continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Theodore O. Maylone
Theodore O. Maylone

FEB 12 1993

February 10, 1993

The Honorable Barbara Vucanovich
Federal Office Building
300 Booth Street, Room #3038
Reno, Nevada 89509

Dear Mrs. Vucanovich:

I am a physician who derives many hours of pleasure from constructing and flying radio controlled model aircraft.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission 9FCC0. The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will

February 10, 1993

Page II

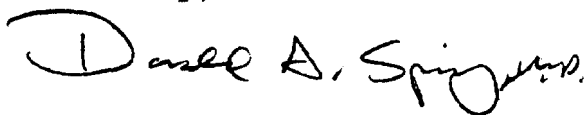
Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 lbs. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our modest at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

Further, we model aircraft pilots have all complied with recent FCC upgrades at personal expense by purchasing new radios with more precise bandwidths to ensure safe control of our model aircraft. This was an industry-wide change fostered by the American Model Aircraft Association.

I do not think it is wise of the FCC to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The FCC may not think we are as important as business users of radios, but we have a considerable investment in our models and in our radio equipment. The hobby provides many hours of enjoyment to thousands of people like myself and contributes to the advancement and development of the commercial aviation industry.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Donald A. Spring". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "D" at the beginning.

DONALD A. SPRING, M.D., F.A.C.C.

DAS/jm

FEB 10 1993

The Honorable Barbara Vucanovich
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

February 9, 1993

Dear Mrs. Vucanovich,

I am an active member of the High Sierra Radio Control Club based in Carson City. I am also a member of the Academy of Model Aeronautics, a national organization which represents the activity of model aviation. My interest in this hobby began before my teens but only in the past couple of years have I been afforded the time to become actively involved in our local club. There are many people in our club, as in other clubs, that have worked very hard to acquire flying sites and maintain a high level of safety while those sites are in use.

Along with my fellow model aviation enthusiasts in this area and in the nation, I am deeply concerned with the changes that the Federal Communications Commission is presently considering. The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If these changes are approved, the safety of all people who enjoy an active or a passive participation in model aviation will be substantially compromised.

The radio equipment used to control our aircraft transmit in the 72 to 76 MHz band. We have been able to coexist in this band with other private mobile land dispatch operations without interference problems as a direct result of the separation of the various frequencies in use. It is my understanding that the FCC proposes to create more and redistribute land mobile frequencies. This would compress the total number of frequencies and would most certainly interfere with the operation of our aircraft.

Just within the past few years, in response to model aviators requests, the FCC granted use of more frequencies dedicated for aircraft. That decision gave us 50 frequencies from which to

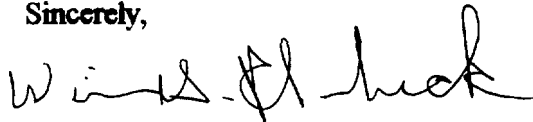
work, affording greater flexibility and a greater margin of safety. These proposed changes would

There are many events and contests that attract hundreds of competitors along with hundreds of even thousands of spectators. Many of these spectators are children and young adults who are as enthusiastic as many of the participants. All of the safety precautions that are implemented at these events can not prevent radio interference from a stronger source, such as the transmissions of mobile radios. Even the smallest of aircraft has the potential of causing serious property damage and bodily injury if radio contact is lost.

I believe that the FCC can find other alternatives to improve the land mobile radio users without compromising the radio control modelers. I cannot supply you with accurate numbers, however, this hobby is enjoyed by tens of thousands of people like myself. We all have considerable amounts of time and varying amounts of money invested, of which radios are a major expense costing as much as \$800. In my case I have well over \$1000 invested in radio equipment that would become obsolete if these changes were to be enacted.

Would you please help us in preserving the safety and the enjoyment of this pastime by stopping the FCC from establishing the changes in PR Docket 92-235.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William G. Plambeck". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "W" and "P".

William G. Plambeck

405 Puma Dr.

Carson City, NV 89704

AMA# 441310

FEB 05 1993

14

George & Kristine Nash
PO Box 197
Genoa, Nv 89411-0197
(702) 782-4441

The Honorable Barbara Vucanovich
300 Booth Ave. #3038
Reno, Nevada.89509

February 2, 1993

Dear Congresswoman,

I know in this age when everything is being protested from Motherhood to the ingredients in Apple pie my letter may seem of little importance but I am grateful for the opportunity to voice my opinion.

For some time now I have been building and flying model airplanes. It's my sole hobby. Recently it has come to my attention that the F.C.C. is going to alter frequencies as to interfere with model aircraft operation.

Why should anyone give this a second thought. I'll try to briefly give my feelings.

First and foremost is safety. Radio controlled models are no longer stick and tissue feather weight aircraft. My own models weigh five or six pounds and fly at speeds in excess of 50 mph. By todays standards these are moderate figures. R C models have kept pace with the technology of the day. Many models are made of hard plastics, carbon composite and even aluminium skins. They weigh up to 30 pounds, have wingspans of ten feet or more and fly at speeds as high as 200 mph. Recently miniature turbine jet engines were introduced to the model industry. If R C flyers were to lose control of their aircraft it could cause great damage, bodily harm and even death. That's why our first concern is safety. Many times I have packed up my equipment and left the airfield when I noticed a potential safety problem with my model.

The second reason is the tremendous cost involved in the equipment we use for our pastime. I recently read an article that stated it would cost modelers 191 million dollars to re-equip with new radios. I'm always a little skeptical about statistics and find them usually exaggerated for a particular cause. Lets say that the cost factor is over stated twofold. It still represents over 80 million dollars of lost money to RC modelers and quite possibly cause me to lose my pastime.

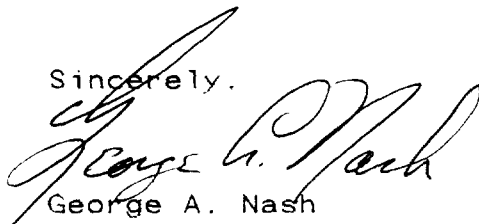
If the FCC approves the proposed rules in PR Docket 92-235 it would create transmission so close to our frequencies (at 4 times our transmitters power) we would easily lose control of our models. Another troubling dimension is the fact that these new frequencies would be mobile and impossible to predict when they would be used in our area

RC enthusiasts are reasonable people. All we ask is for a little more investigation by the FCC. Perhaps the new frequencies could be designated for stationary use only. That way local flyers could make adjustments to a constant.

I urge you to obtain more technical information by writing or calling the Academy of Model Aeronautics, 1810 Samuel Morse Drive, Reston, Virginia, 22090. (Phone) 703-435-0750.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George A. Nash".

George A. Nash

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01-27-93

FCC
1919 M St. NW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: PR Docket 92-235

Gentlemen:

I am very concerned about proposed rules under consideration by FCC under PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, it will drastically reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use. It will also increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for control of model airplanes.

The frequencies I am speaking of are in the 72-76 MHz band currently used for private land and mobile dispatch operations. At the present our frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we are able to share the band without either use interfering with the other. By creating more frequencies by splitting into narrower band-widths and rearranging the band plan, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to model aircraft radio control frequencies and cause interference to our radio control operations.

I am advised that of the 50 frequencies presently available for model radio control only 19 will remain if FCC adopts this new rule. This is unacceptable from a safety standpoint as The Academy of Model Aeronautics (AMA) rules go to great lengths to protect bystanders and property. This congestion of frequencies will result in the "capture" or "glitching" of